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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

WINTER ET AL.

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Application Serial No.: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

Filed: January 26, 2005

Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CONNECTING FIBRE CHANNEL DEVICES  
VIA BYPASS BUFFERS

January 26, 2005

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.115**

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to the examination of this application on its merits, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.